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Charles E. Moore  
Editor



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## WINTER IN COLORADO

Your own physician will tell you that  
the dry mountain air of Colorado as an  
elixir of life stands pre-eminent. Al-  
ways rigorous and stimulating, the  
crisp atmosphere of Colorado is at its  
best in winter. To accommodate winter  
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## MY BIRTHDAY SIGNALIZED BY NATURE.

The Bible says that when Jesus  
Christ was born, a star moved in the  
heavens to guide the wise men, and  
that angels were heard singing in  
the skies.

That may have been easily believed  
by the people who were there and saw  
it, but we of this day, have nothing  
but their word for it.

The thing that was intended to show  
that Jesus was of a miraculous nature,  
ought to have been something that  
would last always, and so that all  
could see it to be true.

The very day after I was born there  
was an occurrence in nature that re-  
mains until this day, and so that all  
can see it. I was born on December  
20, 1837.

The very next day the days began to  
get longer, and they have done that  
way every year since then, and will  
continue to do so even after I am dead.

And so I say the birth of Jesus  
should have been marked, not by a  
star moving, or some merely transi-  
tory thing like that, but by something  
that would remain for all time as in  
the case of my birth.

Change of Time of Trains No. 9 and  
10, Queen & Crescent Route.  
On and after January 9th trains No.  
9 and 10 will run daily except Sunday.  
They now run daily.

## "PEACE ON EARTH"

AND GOOD WILL TO MEN"

CHRISTMAS POT-PIE, FRESH FROM  
THE OVEN, AND STEAMIN'  
HOT.

"Peace upon earth, good-will to  
men," is an annual proclamation in-  
dulged in by a bashful, bragging ele-  
ment of mankind who, for 364 days in  
the year, are antagonistic to every-  
thing conducive to "Peace and Good-  
will."

This element is for Peace, according  
to its own dictations, and not for all  
opposition. It is for Peace one day  
in 365, and for Holiness one day in  
seven. Upon all other days, it is at  
war—at war with itself—disputing, de-  
nouncing, denying and hating all op-  
posing forms of its own likeness—at  
war with all opposition of thought and  
progress, at war with all who do not  
approve of its follies, ignorance, domi-  
nation and imperious assumption of  
the right to control morals, education  
and government; at war with nature,  
—at war even with God Almighty him-  
self.

A religion which has invented an  
everlasting, eternal hell, for the great  
mass of humanity, which thrives from  
threatening, which sways by brutal  
fear, can have no high or just idea of  
the meaning of "Peace and Good-will."  
Such a religion, necessarily must con-  
tain all the elements of criminality  
and concentrated cruelty.

Cruelty Latent in Christianity  
These do not always appear on the  
surface, as the irresistible outward pres-  
sure of thought, freedom and progress  
compels its true nature to secrecy and to  
a subdued inactivity.

But things hellish are always latent  
in the mind, which conceived to hell,  
and things hellish are latent, in that  
religion which utilizes the dogma of  
hell for its own advancement and prof-  
it.

The Inquestionable—the unspeak-  
able torture of millions—the bloody,  
brutal wars, the fendish massacres,  
even down to the present day—the ap-  
proval of war and of the conquest of  
the heathen, the spiritual (?) generals  
who accompany armies, the blessings  
given war-lords and brutal tyrants, and  
the prayers sent up to heaven for the  
success for their doubly demanded and  
brutal unrighteousness, prove to every  
clear, unprejudiced mind, that the  
Christian religion, never was, nor is,  
nor can ever be, from its very nature,  
the conservator of Peace and Good-  
will among men.

## No Good Will for Thought and Dis- covery

How can a religion, which will even  
amiably regard a scientific fact as a  
probability—which is never hospita-  
ble to the innovation of thought or criti-  
cism, which naturally evades its just  
share of the public burdens, but ac-  
tually conspires to establish class  
privileges, and live upon the labor of  
others, how can such a religion have  
justice and "Good-will" in its heart?

Yet, all this notwithstanding, once  
every year, it has the cheek and pre-  
sumption to proclaim the glad tidings  
of Peace and Good-will among men,—  
never for one moment, with drawing  
its agent of despotism, war and ex-  
termination, never for one moment  
resigning from or terminating its  
partnership with the haughty powers  
which feed and fatten upon the blood  
of the ignorant and innocent.

## Preposterous Peace.

It would be laughable, were it not  
so serious, when we observe all these  
wrangling factions, trying to out do  
each other in style and power, jealous  
of each other, hating each other, and  
secretly wishing the other was dead  
and in hell and out of the way—it  
would be laughable, I say, if it were  
not so serious, when we hear all this  
preposterous prattle of "Peace," and  
glibble gab of "Good-will."

## Free-thought Leavening in Christianity

I have been speaking of organized  
Christianity, which is not even at  
Peace with itself. There are individ-  
ual Christians, men and women, who  
still helplessly adhere to the old hull  
of Christianity, but whose brains are  
faintly lit with the torch of progress,  
whose judgment are unconsciously  
swayed by the outside pressure of free-

thought scientific progression, and the  
loud demands of humanity at large,—  
there are Christian individuals of the  
class—men and women, half awak-  
ened from the drowsy, drunken dream  
of faith, who stand bravely and nobly  
out for "Peace and Good-will" among  
men. Though still identified with it,  
they have stepped far in advance of  
their organization. These are evolu-  
ting Christians, or Freethinkers in de-  
gree. We honor them, we join with  
them, we hail them as brothers, but  
at the same time, we are not blind to  
the fact, that they reflect only the  
liberalizing leavening of their own  
brains, and not the true spirit of or-  
ganized Christianity, which came into  
this world, not to bring "Peace," but  
to bring a sword, which, hilt deep, it  
has plunged into the heart of the hu-  
man race.

## Christianity the Ally of War.

As long as Christianity recognizes  
Jehovah as a God of war, a God of  
anger and punishment, a God who vis-  
its his wrath upon his enemies—as  
long as they pray to him for success  
in war—as long as popes, primates,  
and arch-bishops side with the pow-  
ers of wealth and autocracy in their  
conspiracies and bloody aggregations  
—as long as they send chaplains upon  
those mighty engines of death and de-  
struction, the modern battleship—as  
long as they accompany armies for the  
purpose of sustaining the courage  
of Christian brute, with a gun in his  
hand,—a brute only because of his  
training,—as long as they thus iden-  
tify themselves with war—as long as  
they thus give it countenance and re-  
frain from denouncing it,—they may  
defy their Prince of Peace, and preach  
Peace, but there is, and can be no  
Peace, they but reveal their preten-  
sions and hypocrisies.

## "Good-will" a Siren Song.

As long as they seize the mind of  
children, and darken its life with a  
bloody superstition, limit its intelli-  
gence, and thus keep the multitude in  
the bondage of ignorance, and subject  
to the despotism of tyranny and of  
capitalistic greed and selfishness, they  
cannot be "Good-will" among men.  
Their "Peace and Good-will" is but a  
sham pretense, in reality, as deceitful  
and dangerous as the siren song that  
lures the unwarned seamen to his cer-  
tain destruction.  
J. B. W.

## "THE SEEKER."

An Infidel Book By Harry Leon Wilson

My wife gave me, as a Christmas  
present, Harry Leon Wilson's new  
book, "The Seeker."

There are four book stores in Lex-  
ington, and my copy was the last one  
in any of them—all sold out.

It sold as a Christmas book. It is  
a straight-out infidel book, by this  
writer who is now coming to the front  
as one of the most prominent of  
American writers.

It seems strange that an infidel  
book, could become a popular Christ-  
mas book in Kentucky, but I suppose  
no book in Lexington was so popular  
as a Christmas book.

James Lane Allen had given it a fine  
endorsement that called general at-  
tention to it.

"The Seeker" is more fully and evi-  
dently written in the interest of In-  
fidelity than Allen's "Reign of Law"  
was. The argument for Infidelity, in  
"The Seeker," is as radical as any of  
our avowed infidel propagandists ever  
make, though the book being fiction,  
the argument is put into the mouth  
of one of the characters of the book.

The principal two male characters  
in the book are Bernal and Allan Lin-  
ford, the first an infidel and the other  
an Episcopal preacher. The infidel  
is a beautiful character with his heart  
full of love for humanity, while the  
preacher is a most revolting hypocrite,  
with the common failure among  
preachers with the women of their  
congregations.

The Rev. Allan Linford is not the  
common, coarse variety of clerical hy-  
pocrite that Dickens gives us in "Stig-  
gins," and "Pecksniff" and "Chadbad,"  
but he is the elegant, polished smooth  
article that we see in our fashionable  
churches and that is so much admired  
by the women.

The popularity of such a book here,  
shows that the infidel sentiment is  
growing rapidly.

The annual convention of the Amer-  
ican Association for the Advancement  
of Science was opened at the Universi-  
ty of Pennsylvania.

## ORIGIN OF CHRISTIANITY

According to the Louisville Courier-  
Journal, is the Same That is  
Claimed by Infidels.

Ordinarily I do not like to reprint  
much from other papers, but in some  
cases I think it best to do so.

The Courier-Journal of Louisville,  
Ky., ranks as high as any paper in the  
United States and is the most promi-  
nent paper in the South.

The religious orthodoxy of that pa-  
per has never been questioned.

When, therefore, a paper of that  
kind takes a position on a prominent  
religious matter that is exactly the  
same as that maintained by all promi-  
nent infidel propagandists, the editor-  
ial becomes so important that it is  
best to reproduce it in full, rather than  
merely to comment upon it.

The common belief among the mass-  
es of Christian people, and the one  
that is encouraged by the church, is  
that Christmas had its origin in the  
Christian religion.

So far from this being true Christ-  
mas existed before there was any  
Christian religion, and was simply a  
time of drunkenness and merry-mak-  
ing and present-giving, especially of  
dolls and candles, that existed among  
the heathen and was adopted by the  
Christian church.

The original idea of what is now  
called Christmas was the celebration,  
by the heathen, of the beginning of the  
lengthening of the days.

The story of the New Testament  
about the birth of Jesus would indi-  
cate that it occurred in the warm  
weather—that being the time when  
people went to their tithing towns to  
pay their taxes and the time when  
shepherds would be watching their  
flocks, at night, out in the open.

In honor of the returning sun  
already in existence, simply adopted  
that time as the time of the birth of  
Jesus though it is in winter.

The editorial of the Courier-Journal,  
confining this idea is as follows:

On the threshold of the great festi-  
val of Christendom to which another  
day will bring us, it may not be amiss  
to anticipate its coming with a few  
historical facts relating to it. It may  
seem paradoxical to say that Christ-  
mas is older than Christianity, but  
the observance of a midwinter festi-  
val dates to a very remote period,  
probably to prehistoric times, when  
nature-worship was the religion of our  
rude ancestors. To their limited  
knowledge, the great forces of nature  
—sun, moon, stars, planets, wind, thun-  
der, lightning, etc., were actual deities,  
possessed of super-human powers and  
capable of yielding great benefits or  
inflicting terrible punishments on poor  
humanity. The midwinter festival  
had evidently a solar origin and was  
connected with the winter solstice. As  
the more intelligent people of those  
days watched the great Sun-God, each  
day sinking lower and lower in the  
southern sky, they must sometimes  
have wondered and asked themselves,  
"What if he should never return to  
warm and revive the frozen earth?"  
And when they found that at a certain  
stage his downward course was stayed,  
what more natural than that they  
should have a time of rejoicing to wel-  
come the Sun-God's return?

The Saturnalia of Ancient Rome,  
which dates back to mythical times,  
is said to have been originally a cele-  
bration of the winter solstice. It was  
observed on the 19th of December and  
lasted seven days. Schools were closed,  
distinctions of rank were set at  
naught and slaves ate at table with  
their masters, or were actually waited  
on by them, and the utmost freedom  
of spirit was permitted. All classes  
exchanged gifts, the most common  
being wax tapers and clay dolls. The  
latter were especially given to chil-  
dren and the makers of them held a  
regular fair at this time.

The prominence given to candles at  
this festival points to the custom of  
making a new fire at this time. The  
practice of kindling fires at the sum-  
mer solstice, Eve of St. John, still pre-  
vails in Germany and many parts of  
Europe, and there are traces, of which  
the Yule log is one, of the observance  
of a similar custom at the winter sol-  
stice. The modern custom of decorat-  
ing houses and churches with ever-

greens and using mistletoe at Christ-  
mas is derived from ancient Druid  
practices. It was their belief that  
sylvan spirits might flock to the ever-  
greens and remain unrippled by frost  
till a milder season.

The observance of Christmas—  
Christ and mass—as the anniversary  
of the birth of Christ is attributed to  
Pope Telephorus, who died A. D., 138.  
At first it was a month feast, like  
Easter, and was celebrated by the  
Eastern churches in the months of  
April and May. The actual date of  
Christ's birth was unknown. In the  
Fourth century St. Cyril of Jerusalem  
obtained an order from Pope Julius  
I. for an investigation to be made as  
to the day of Christ's nativity. No  
authentic proof of the exact day could  
be arrived at, but the result of inquiry  
by the theologians of both the Eastern  
and Western churches led to an agree-  
ment upon the 25th of December. It  
has been urged by some, and it seems  
not improbable, that this date was con-  
veniently agreed upon because it serv-  
ed another purpose. Complaints had  
been frequently made that many of  
the converts to Christianity could not  
be weaned from indulgence in the old  
Pagan festival of the Saturnalia. By  
making the date of the Nativity co-  
incide with the Saturnalia the church  
got rid of this source of trouble, thus  
supplanting the older heathen festival  
with the newer Christian one.

## BAD CAMPBELLITE PREACHER.

The New York Truth Seeker, of  
Dec. 21, has the following:

"The Rev. Isaac Selby, who came to  
this county from Australia a few years  
ago as a converted infidel and an In-  
fidel smasher, is now in jail in San  
Francisco. He was recently sued for  
divorce by his wife; and the other day,  
the suit having gone against him, he  
arose in his seat and attempted to as-  
sassinate Superior Judge Hubbard by  
shooting him with a pistol. His first  
shot missed, and before he could fire  
again the judge had left the bench  
and grappled with him. The reverend  
gentleman, when caught, is being kept  
for safe keeping."

The first I ever heard of Selby was  
about four years ago. He said he had  
come from Australia and the he had  
been an infidel and that he was then  
defending the Christian religion as a  
debater with infidels. His case was  
investigated and it could not be found  
that he had ever been an infidel.

Mr Charles Watts, of London, Eng-  
land, was then in this country and  
it was arranged that debate between  
Watts and Selby would be conducted  
at Covington, Kentucky

When the time for the debate came  
Watts did not appear. It was said that  
he was sick.

Selby then began a protracted re-  
vival meeting in the Campbellite  
church at Covington and the papers  
reported that he made many converts.

## A FINE LARGE CATHOLIC LIE.

Different persons have sent me dif-  
ferent papers containing account tak-  
en from the London (England) Daily  
Express, of miracles performed by a  
Catholic priest called Father Ignatius.

The miracles are, very prudently,  
said to be so far back as 1862, so that  
it would be difficult to expose the lie  
that the priest is telling.

He says that one night a woman  
came to him greatly distressed be-  
cause his daughter was dead.

The priest had a piece of the wood  
of the true cross. He went to the  
girl's home and found she had been  
dead for two hours. He held the piece  
of wood over her and commanded her  
to arise and she arose from the dead.

In another instance the mother of a  
girl refused to allow her child to be  
baptized.

The priest told the woman that the  
curse of God would fall upon her, and  
immediately the girl became idiotic  
and broke out all over with loathsome  
sores.

The mother then relented and the  
priest healed the daughter immedi-  
ately.

It seems unreasonable that the girl  
should have been punished for the sin  
of the mother, but God crucified his  
son because other people had done  
wrong, and so I suppose the priest  
was correct in punishing the daughter  
because the mother had done wrong.  
In another case a workman was assist-  
ing in raising an immense weight of  
stone on a building.

The stone all fell upon the man and

so crushed him that his body was  
"nothing but a bruised pulp."

The priest put upon the dead man  
some water from Lourdes and the  
dead man arose and walked home  
without a scar on him.

No names, nor circumstances are  
given, no references given to persons  
who witnessed these things, and yet  
so degraded and lying is the Christian  
religion that a big English newspaper  
prints rot of that kind and it is sent  
by press dispatch to this country and  
reprinted here as truth.

Even Jesus Christ is reported to  
have raised the dead only once.

Of course if he had done that it  
would have been more important than  
all the balance of his miracles com-  
bined. But the first three gospels do  
not mention it, and it is found only in  
John, a gospel the genuineness and au-  
thenticity of which are disputed by  
many Christians who believe the first  
three.

I have been in the grave from which  
Lazarus is said to have been raised.  
It is surrounded by high walls so that  
no body but the owners of the place  
can see it. According to the New Tes-  
tament there was none present except  
his two sisters and one of them was  
the sweetheart of Jesus, and would not  
have told on him.

Nothing is said as to what ever be-  
came of Lazarus after his resurrection.

The people who live there at Beth-  
any now seem neither to know nor to  
care about the story of Lazarus' resur-  
rection, though that such a man lived  
there seems quite probable.

They are all, I think, Mohammed-  
dans, and seemed to regard us as a  
gang of fools who had come to see  
about a great lie that was told in con-  
nection with their little old rocky  
town.

But just any old lie will do for the  
priests to tell to separate from their  
money, the fools who are willing to  
listen to them.

## BELIEVES IN RELIGION FOUNDED ON SCIENCE

Dr. Lyman Abbott says that the Bible Can  
No Longer Be Accepted As Ulti-  
mate.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 19.—Dr. Ly-  
man Abbott, in a sermon to Harvard  
students has announced his belief in a  
religion founded, not on the Bible, but  
on science and the outstretchings of  
the human heart.

"I wonder," he said "If you will un-  
derstand me when I say that I no longer  
believe in a great first cause. My  
God is a great and ever-present force,  
which is manifest in all the activities  
of men and all the workings of nature.

"I believe in a God who is in and  
through and of everything—not an ab-  
sent God, whom we have to reach  
through a little or some other outside  
aid, but God who is closer to us than  
hands or feet. Science, literature and  
history tell us that there is one eter-  
nal energy, that the Bible can no longer  
be accepted as ultimate, that many of  
its laws were copied from other re-  
ligions, that the Ten Commandments  
did not spring spontaneously from  
Moses, but were, like all laws, a gradual  
growth and that man is a creature  
not a creation.

"No thinking man will say there are  
many energies. The days of polythe-  
ism are past. There is only one en-  
ergy. That energy has always been  
working. It is an intelligent energy.  
No scientist can deny it. It was work-  
ing before Christ's time, even as it is  
now."

Lyman Abbott, the successor to  
Henry Ward Beecher, is the greatest  
preacher in America, and this sermon  
is to one of the greatest schools in  
America.

Of course it is easy to read, between  
the lines that Abbott is an atheist, but  
he has not the manhood to say it in  
plain language, and come out and  
work with the infidels.

## RECITING A BIBLE VERSE.

LITTLE GIRL DROPS DEAD.

New York, Dec. 13.—Excitement  
and nervousness because she is to re-  
cite a verse from the Bible at a Christ-  
mas entertainment of a church in  
Brooklyn have caused the death of  
May Young, 10 years old. While she  
and 99 other little girls were at the  
church rehearsing for the entertain-  
ment she stepped from the line to re-  
cite her verse and fell forward on her  
face dead. Terror reigned for several  
minutes among the crowd of children,  
who ran screaming from the scene,  
but the minister and his assistants  
finally calmed the excitement.